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ACTION AF-15

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 IO-11 SSO-00
NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00
PA-02 PRS-01 AID-05 /059 W
---------- 112960

O R 151527Z JAN 76
FM AMEMBASSY GABORONE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7495
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA
AMEMBASSY LOURENCO MARQUES
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY MASERU
AMEMBASSY MBABANE
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

UNCLAS GABORONE 0059

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR, OAU, AO, BC, ZA, IT, MZ
SUBJECT: KHAMA RETURNS FROM THE OAU SUMMIT

REF: GABORONE 0043 (NOTAL)

CAPE TWON FOR EMBASSY

1. PRESIDENT SIR SERETSE KHAMA RETURNED EVENING OF JANUARY 14 FROM OAU SUMMIT AT ADDIS HAVING BEEN DELAYED FOR A MEETING WITH KAUNDA, MACHEL AND NYERERE IN DAR MORNING OF SAME DAY. KHAMA TRAVELLED ON A ZAMBIA AIR FORCE AIRCRAFT AND WAS ACCOMPANIED ONLY BY HIS PRIVATE SECREATARY L.M. L. J. LEGWAILA AND HIS SECURITY STAFF.

2. KHAMA WAS GREETED BY HIS FAMILY, MEMBERS OF HIS CABINET,

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GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS AND THE DIPLOMATIC CORPS AND GAVE AN UNEXPECTED AND UNUSUALLY LONG PRESS CONFERENCE IN THE TRANSIT LOUNGE. REFERENCES TO THE OAU MEETING ITSELF AND THE ANGOLA SITUATION WERE GENERALLY IN LINE WITH COMMENTS REFTEL IN WHICH HE REITERATED BOTSWANA'S POSITION IN SUPPORT OF A GOVERNMENT OF NATIONAL UNITY.

3. IN ADDITION, KHAMA TOOK NOTE OF THE FACT THAT BOTSWANA HAD CALLED FOR A SUMMIT MEETING FROM THE BEGINNING AND INDICATED THAT IN PART IT WAS THE DELAY IN HAVING A MEETING THAT SOLIDIFIED THE TWO OPPOSING POSITIONS. IN RESPONSE TO A QUESTION AS TO WHETHER THE OAU SPLIT ON THE ANGOLA SITUATION HAD WEAKENED THE RELATIONSHIPS AMONG THE HEADS OF THE OAU, KHAMA RESPONDED THAT QTE WE HAVE NOT REALLY STRENGTHENED THE OAU UNQTE. HE WENT ON TO SAY THAT QTE THE ONLY WAY WE COULD POSSIBLY STRENTHEN THE OAU IS BY RESOLVING A SITUATION WHICH IS AS TRAGIC AS THIS ONE BECAUSE IT INVOLVES THE DEATH OF MANY PEOPLE WHILST WE ARE TALKING UNQTE.

4. AS A PART OF A GENERAL STATEMENT ON THE ANGOLA SITUATION, KHAMA MADE REFERENCE TO QTE EXTERNAL FORCES UNQTE IN THE FOLLOWING TERMS: QTE THERE WAS A GENERAL CONDEMNATION OF SOME OF THOSE EXTERNAL FORCES: ONE OF THEM WAS SOUTH AFRICA, AND THE OTHER WAS THE SOVIET UNION, THE OTHER THE UNITED STATES AND SO ON -- THAT IS WAS NO LONGER LEFT TO THE ANGOLAN PEOPLE BUT IT WAS A MATTER OF POWER POLITICS WHICH WAS NOW DETERMINING THE DESTINIES OF THE ANGOLAN PEOPLE UNQTE.

5. IN DISCUSSING THE OAU MEETING, KHAMA ADMITTED THAT THE OUTCOME WAS QTE TO AGREE TO DISAGREE: AGREE THAT WE THINK IT IS IN THE INTEREST OF SOUTHERN AFRICA THAT THERE SHOULD BE GENERAL PEACE AND CONCORD... BUT THEN, OF COURSE, AS INDEPENDENT COUNTRIES EACH ONE OF US COULD TAKE HIS OWN LINE UNQTE.

6. EXTERNAL AFFAIRS MINISTER A.J. MOGWE AND ACTING SECRETARY FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS D.A. MPUCHANE ARRIVED MORNING OF JAN. 15 BY A COMMERCIAL FLIGHT VIA JOHANNESBURG. APPARENTLY THEY HAD REMAINED IN LUSAKA RATHER THAN ACCOMPANY THE PRESIDENT TO DAR.

7. IN BRIEF PLANE-SIDE INTERVIEW, MOGWE CALLED HIMSELF QTE DISAPPOINTED BUT NOT DISCOURAGED UNQTE ON ANGOLA SITUATION. HE

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PRONOUNCED DAU QTE STILL INTACT UNQTE BECAUSE NONE OF THE PARTICIPANTS IN ADDIS WERE QTE KEEN FOR A SHOWDOWN UNQTE. IN ADDITION, MUGNE CLAIMED TO BELIEVE THAT THERE IS STILL SOME ROOM FOR COMPROMISE, EVEN AMONG THOSE WHO HAVE RECOGNIZED MPLA. HOWEVER, HE DID NOT ELABORATE ABOUT POINTS ON WHICH HE THINKS COMPROMISE POSSIBLE.
THOMSEN

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